

BEFORE THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Gregory Scott
Joel Jacobs
Marshall Johnson
Edward Garvey
LeRoy Koppendrayer

Chair
Commissioner
Commissioner
Commissioner
Commissioner

In the Matter of **Qwest Communication's**
Request for Approval of Certified Actual
Costs Associated with the **Beltrami County**
911 Emergency Telephone Services System

ISSUE DATE: March 2, 2001

DOCKET NO. **P421/ES-01-243**

ORDER APPROVING CERTIFIED 911
SYSTEM COSTS

BACKGROUND

On November 4, 1980, the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (the Commission) approved Beltrami County's final plan for the establishment of a 911 Emergency Telephone Services system.

On September 26, 1983, the Commission approved the actual costs Blackduck Telephone Company incurred for placing a portion of a 911 Emergency Services system in Beltrami County.

On December 12, 1983, the Commission approved the actual costs Northwestern Bell Telephone Company incurred for placing a portion of a 911 Emergency Services system in Beltrami County.

On March 16, 1988, the Commission approved the actual costs Paul Bunyan Rural Telephone Company incurred for placing a portion of a 911 Emergency Services system in Beltrami County.

On December 9, 1998, the Commission approved the actual costs Independent Emergency Services, Limited Liability Company incurred for placing a portion of tandem based Automatic Number Identification (ANI) service in the 911 Emergency Services system in Beltrami County.

On August 28, 2000, the Commission approved the actual costs Paul Bunyan Rural Telephone Cooperative incurred for installing interexchange circuits to their Kellher, Puposky, Solway, and Blackduck Exchanges for the provision of enhanced 911 Services with ANI in Beltrami County.

CURRENT FILING

Beltrami County has contracted with Qwest Communications (the Company) for 911 Emergency Telephone Services.

On May 19, 1998, the Company installed interexchange circuits and office equipment to provide ANI to the Bemidji Exchange for enhanced 911 Services.

On January 24, 2001, the Company certified the actual costs it incurred for the provision of outswitch trunks and office equipment for ANI service.

The Company is now requesting Commission approval of the actual ANI system costs. Commission approval is necessary before the Department of Administration (DOA) will make payments for 911 system costs.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

Minn. Stat. Section 403.11, subd. 3 states:

Subd. 3 (METHOD OF PAYMENT; CERTIFICATION.) A public utility incurring reimbursable costs under subdivision 1 or 2 shall certify those costs to the commissioner of administration. The certification shall be in a form as prescribed by the commissioner after consultation with the public utilities commission. If the commissioner and the commission approve the certified costs as appropriate and accurate, the commissioner shall pay the certified costs from money appropriated for that purpose within 90 days following receipt by the commissioner of the certified costs. The commissioner of administration shall estimate the amount required to reimburse public utilities for the state's obligations under subdivisions 1 and 2 of this section and the governor shall include the estimated amount in the biennial budget request.

Qwest Communications has certified, in writing, that the elements of 911 services and associated costs indicated on Attachment A, reflect only charges for services actually rendered in the direct provision of 911 service in Beltrami County.

All charges listed on Attachment A are in accordance with the Company's tariffs.

The Commission finds that the costs for 911 Emergency Telephone Service in Beltrami County which have been certified by the Company are appropriate and accurate.

Minn. Stat. Section 403.11 System Costs

Minn. Rules, pt. 1215.1400 Funding Eligibility/Payment of Recurring Costs

Minn. Rules, pt. 1215.1500 Funding Eligibility/Payment of Central Office Modification Costs

ORDER

1. The costs identified on Attachment A accompanying this Order are approved as appropriate and accurate pursuant to the Commission's March 21, 2000 Standing Order Designating Filings Requesting Certification of 911 Costs As Filings Subject to Approval Under Minn. Stat. § 216A.03, Subd. 7, Docket No. P-999/CI-99-1723.
2. This Order does not approve payment of any 911 system costs. Any possible future approval of payment for system costs shall be granted by the Commissioner of the Department of Administration in accordance with the provisions of Minn. Stat. Section 403.11.
3. This Order shall become effective immediately.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

Burl W. Haar
Executive Secretary

(S E A L)

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STATE OF MINNESOTA)
)SS
COUNTY OF RAMSEY)

AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE

I _____, being first duly sworn, deposes and says:

That on the ____ day of _____, 2001 (s)he served the attached **Order Approving Certified 911 System Costs for Beltrami County 911 Emergency Telephone Service Docket No. P421/ES-01-243.**

XX By depositing in the United States Mail at the City of St. Paul, a true and correct copy thereof, properly enveloped with postage prepaid

XX By personal service

XX By inter-office mail

to all persons at the addresses indicated below or on the attached list:

JAMES R BEUTELSPACHER
STATE 9-1-1 PROJECT MANAGER
BUSINESS TECHNOLOGIES DIVISION
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MARY KAY FRISCH
PRODUCT ANALYST
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION
ROOM 510
658 CEDAR STREET
ST. PAUL, MN 55155

Subscribed and sworn to before me,

a notary public, this ____ day of

_____, 2001.

Notary Public